

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 01710 162114Z

70

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-04 ISO-00 SSO-00 (ISO) W

----- 009260

O 162102Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6669

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 1710

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS TD

SUBJ: TRINIDADIAN ENTERTAINERS

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 1541

1. ENTIRE GROUP OF ENTERTAINERS FOR MINNEAPOLIS AQUATENNIAL--
37 DANCERS WHO ARE AMATEURS AND 25 STEEL BANDSMEN WHO
ARE PROFESSIONALS--DOCUMENTED WITH B-1 VISAS VALID FOR
SINGLE ENTRY AND 60 DAYS.

2. AS STATED IN FORBES/IRMINGER TELECON TODAY, ALIENS TRAVELLING
JULY 17 ON BWIA FLIGHT 400, LEAVING PORT OF SPAIN 0730 AND
ARRIVING MIAMI 1350 HOURS.

3. THERE ARE MORE THAN 100 STEEL BANDS IN TRINIDAD, AND IN A
COUNTRY OF ONE MILLION POPULATION IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THESE PRO-
FESSIONALS CANNOT SUPPORT THEMSELVES BY THEIR MUSICAL EFFORTS
ALONE. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF BANDS MUST THEREFORE, HAVE
OTHER OCCUPATIONS OR PROFESSIONS IN ORDER TO ASSURE
LIVELIHOOD, ALTHOUGH MANY CHRONICALLY UNEMPLOYED.

4. EMBASSY HAS STRESSED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT PRESENT
B-1 ISSUANCES DO NOT ESTABLISH PRECEDENT.

5. UNDERSTAND THAT DEPARTMENT AND OTHERS INTERESTED INCLUDING
GOTT LABOR ATTACHE WILL BE MEETING TO COORDINATE FUTURE
PROCEDURES SIMILAR CASES. I HAVE INFORMED GOVERNOR GENERAL
SIR ELLIS CLARK THAT VISAS HAVE BEEN ISSUED, BUT ALSO STRESSED
NON-PRECEDENTIAL CHARACTER OF ARRANGEMENTS MADE AND IMPORTANCE
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OF TIMELY ACTION BY BAND SPONSORS IN THE FUTURE TO SUBMIT

REQUEST FOR H-1 STATUS IN TIME FOR ORDERLY RESOLUTION OF CON-
FLICTING FACTORS IN USG.
MILLER

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NNN

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